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# REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

## Addendum

1. My report of 29 October 1996 to the Security Council (S/1996/887) on the situation in Burundi was prepared on the basis of information available to the Secretariat on 22 October 1996. The present document is in follow-up to paragraph 6 of the report, in which I announced my intention to issue an addendum shortly on developments in recent days.

2. The recent rebellion of the Banyamulenge in eastern Zaire has considerably changed the political situation in the Great Lakes Region. The extent of the resulting political, military and humanitarian crisis has naturally focused the international community's attention on eastern Zaire.

3. However, the developments in Zaire must not be permitted to make the serious situation in neighbouring Burundi, where civil war and ethnic conflict continue, become a secondary issue. For example, the Burundi refugees in the Zairian frontier town Uvira have chosen to move further westwards, towards central Zaire, rather than return to Burundi. So far, under 4,000 Burundi refugees out of the approximately 200,000 who took refuge in Uvira have returned to Burundi.

4. On 2 November, the President of Kenya invited me to take part in a regional summit meeting that is to take place in Nairobi on 5 November to consider how the situation is developing (a) in eastern Zaire and (b) in Burundi. Since it is impossible for me to leave Headquarters this week, I have requested my Special Representative for Burundi, Mr. Marc Faguy, to represent me at the summit meeting, where he will be accompanied by a representative of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

5. Today it is more important than ever that the international community do everything within its power to bring to an end a conflict that has already brought suffering to the people of Burundi for too long. The United Nations, for its part, will pursue its efforts to facilitate a return to peace and stability in Burundi and will continue to support the countries of the subregion in their action designed to bring the Burundi parties to the negotiating table.

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